



Project Plan

Project Title:	Revision of ASA 250 <i>Consideration of Laws and Regulations in an Audit of a Financial Report</i>
Project ID:	ASA 250 (2016)
Project Objective(s):	To revise ASA 250 <i>Consideration of Laws and Regulations in an Audit of a Financial Report</i> (issued October 2009) and related conforming amendments to existing standards in order to harmonise with IAASB.
Priority:	High
Issue/Reason:	ASA 250 requires updating to accommodate changes adopted by the IAASB (primarily to conform with IESBA NOCLAR changes).
Date Prepared:	17 October 2016
Date To Be Approved:	25 October 2016 (AUASB teleconference)

Project Objectives

- To revise ASA 250 *Consideration of Laws and Regulations in an Audit of a Financial Report* to incorporate changes to the corresponding ISA standard. The changes result in conforming amendments to ASQC 1; ASA 210; ASA 220; ASA 240; ASA 260; ASA 450; ASRE 2400; ASAE 3000; ASAE 3402; and ASAE 3410.
- In addition, the conforming standard will include the change to ASA 700 in relation to the date of the audit report.

Stakeholders

1. Practitioners – private and public sector;
2. ASIC;
3. Entities preparing general or special purpose financial statements that are audited or reviewed; and
4. Users of financial reports including shareholders and investors.

Background

At the June 2016 IAASB meeting the IAASB approved revisions to ISA 250 and the related conforming amendments to other IAASB standards. The standard has been cleared by the Public Interest Oversight Board (PIOB), and in October 2016 was released by the IAASB.

The APESB has yet to expose amendments to the APES code resulting from NOCLAR amendments to the IESBA code, this is expected at the back end of 2016. While the AUASB can prepare ED's based on the ISA, this will ultimately be subject to APES adoption of the international amendment.

This document contains preliminary views and/or AUASB Technical Group recommendations to be considered at a meeting of the AUASB, and does not necessarily reflect the final decisions of the AUASB. No responsibility is taken for the results of actions or omissions to act on the basis of reliance on any information contained in this document (including any attachments), or for any errors or omissions in it.

Scope

To revise ASA 250 and amend other auditing standards impacted by the revisions to ISA 250.

Risks/Issues

1. ISA 250 makes reference to a number of paragraphs in the IESBA Code that has yet to be adopted by the APESB in the APESB Code. Based on discussions with the APESB, whilst the exposure draft is scheduled to be considered at the APESB meeting on 29 November 2016, there is a high likelihood that the exposure draft may be held back to 2017 as a result of an IESBA project to restructure the code (including changes to paragraph references included in ISA 250).
2. AUASB stakeholders may raise issues not addressed by the IAASB when issuing ISA 250 and the related conforming amendments. Changes to Australian Auditing standards from the ISA's are made only in accordance with the AUASB "compelling reasons" policy.
3. There is one full AUASB meeting remaining for 2016 with the next meeting scheduled for 1 March 2017 which may cause a delay in issuing the standards.

Action Plan

1. Develop a project plan and obtain AUASB approval;
2. Prepare an issues paper and draft exposure draft for AUASB approval;
3. Prepare a disposition paper in relation to feedback obtained;
4. Obtain OBPR clearance and perform QA;
5. Obtain AUASB approval for revised ASA 250 and compiled standards arising from conforming amendments; and
6. Issue ASA 250 and compiled standards arising from conforming amendments.

Resources

1 Senior Project Manager (to oversee work performed by the Project Manager)

1 Project Manager

Timetable (Note: Subject to APESB timing in relation to the adoption of IESBA amendments in the APES Code)

Date	Description
25 Oct 2015	Present project plan and issues paper and obtain AUASB approval.
Late Oct-Mid Nov 2016	Prepare draft exposure drafts, for both ASA 250 and compiled standards arising from conforming amendments.
29 Nov 2016	Present draft EDs for approval by AUASB (subject to APESB).
December 2016 (onwards)	Align release of the AUASB ED's with those of the APESB so that stakeholders can understand the implications of amendments from both boards.